### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

In Re:

\$ Chapter 11

\$ W.R. GRACE & CO., et al.,

\$ Jointly Administered

\$ Case No. 01-01139 (JKF)

Debtors.

\$

# FEE AUDITOR'S FINAL REPORT REGARDING FEE APPLICATION OF WALLACE, KING, MARRARO & BRANSON, PLLC FOR THE ELEVENTH INTERIM PERIOD

This is the final report of Warren H. Smith & Associates, P.C., acting in its capacity as fee auditor in the above-captioned bankruptcy proceedings, regarding the <u>Eleventh Interim Fee</u>

<u>Application of Wallace, King Marraro & Branson, PLLC</u> (the "Application").

#### **BACKGROUND**

- 1. Wallace, King, Marraro & Branson, PLLC ("Wallace King") was retained as special litigation and environmental counsel to the Debtor. In the Application, Wallace King seeks approval of fees totaling \$266,944.30¹ and costs totaling \$55,730.33 for its services from October 1, 2003, through December 31, 2003.
- 2. In conducting this audit and reaching the conclusions and recommendations contained herein, we reviewed in detail the Application in its entirety, including each of the time entries included in the exhibits to the Application, for compliance with 11 U.S.C. § 330, Local Rule 2016-2 of the Local Rules of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, Amended

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Although the Application requests \$266,944.30 in fees for this period, this amount reflects a 40% reduction, \$95,887.20, for time spent with regard to the Honeywell litigation. Notwithstanding this discount, the actual amount of fees reviewed is \$362,831.50.00.

Effective February 1, 2001, and the United States Trustee Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed Under 11 U.S.C. 330, Issued January 30, 1996, (the "Guidelines"), as well as for consistency with precedent established in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, and the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. We served on Wallace King an initial report based on our review, and received a response from Wallace King, portions of which response are quoted herein.

#### **DISCUSSION**

3. In our initial report, we noted ten meal expense entries totaling \$2,408.06, which may be excessive. The entries are provided below.

C. Marraro - Meal with expert E. Anderson in DC on 2/25/03 (2 people)	223.75
C. Marraro - Meal with Mr. Nagy in DC on 3/7/03 (2 people)	196.90
C. Marraro - Dinner with A. Nagy on 4/25/03 (2 people)	241.22
C. Marraro - Meal with Messrs. McGuire, B. Bowe and A Nagy in NJ on 5/13/03 (4 people)	294.30
C. Marraro - Dinner with Mr. Agnello, Ms. Flax and Mr. Nagy in DC on 5/23/03 (4 people)	234.21
C. Mararo - Dinner in New York with Mr. Obradovic, Mr. Nagy, Mr. Brown and Mr. Agnello on 7/14/03 (5 people)	335.20
C. Marraro - Dinner meeting with Mr. Siegal and Mr. Corcoran in Baltimore on 6/18/03 (3 people)	281.32
C. Marraro - Dinner with Mr. Senftleben on NYC on 6/24/03 (2 people)	156.98
C. Marraro - Dinner meeting with Mr. Senftleben, Mr. Nagy, Mr. Agnello and Mr. Brown on 6/30/03 (5 people)	303.35

#### FEE AUDITOR'S FINAL REPORT - Page 2

wrg FR Wallace 11int 10-12.03.wpd

C. Marraro - Dinner with Dr. Anderson on 8/19/03 (2 people)

141.31

Paragraph I.E. of the Guidelines states, ". . . [i]n evaluating fees for professional services, it is relevant to consider . . . [w]hether the expense is reasonable and economical." We suggest reasonable expense ceilings of \$15.00 per person for breakfast, \$25.00 for lunch and \$50.00 for dinner. For each entry we asked Wallace King to explain why the expense should not be viewed as excessive.

Wallace King responded as follows:

All meals are for business working dinners in connection with the Honeywell case. These dinner meetings included both clients and experts. These dinners were held at typical New Jersey/ New York and Washington business eating establishments. All charges include taxes and gratuity.

We appreciate the response but maintain that our suggested meal expense ceilings are reasonable. Thus, we recommend a reduction of \$858.54 in expenses.

#### CONCLUSION

4. Thus, we recommend approval of fees totaling \$266,944.30 and costs totaling \$54,871.79 (\$55,730.33 minus \$858.54) for Wallace King's services from October 1, 2003, through December 31, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

WARREN H. SMITH & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

By: Warren H. Smith

Texas State Bar No. 18757050

Republic Center 325 N. St. Paul, Suite 1275 Dallas, Texas 75201 214-698-3868 214-722-0081 (fax) whsmith@whsmithlaw.com

#### **FEE AUDITOR**

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been served First Class United States mail to the attached service list on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2004.

Warren H. Smith

#### SERVICE LIST

#### **Notice Parties**

#### **The Applicant**

Christopher H. Marraro, Esq. Wallace King Marraro & Branson PLLC 1050 Thomas Jefferson St. N.W. Washington, DC 20007

#### **The Debtors**

David B. Siegel, Esq. Sr. V.P. and Gen. Counsel W.R. Grace & Co. 7500 Grace Drive Columbia, MD 21044

#### **Counsel for the Debtors**

James H.M. Sprayregen, Esq. Kirkland & Ellis 200 East Randolph Drive Chicago, IL 60601

Laura Davis Jones, Esq. Pachulski, Stang, Ziehl, Young & Jones, P.C. 919 North Market Street, Suite 1600 P.O. Box 8705 Wilmington, DE 19899-8705

### **Counsel for the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors**

Lewis Kruger, Esq Stroock & Stroock & Lavan 180 Maiden Lane New York, NY 10038-4982 Michael R. Lastowski, Esq. Duane Morris & Heckscher 1100 N. Market Street, Suite 1200 Wilmington, De 19801-1246

## Counsel to the Official Committee of Property Damage Claimants

Scott L. Baena, Esq Bilzin, Sumberg, Dunn, Baena, Price & Axelrod First Union Financial Center 200 South Biscayne Boulevard, Suite 2500 Miami, FL 33131

Michael B. Joseph, Esq. Ferry & Joseph, P.A. 824 Market Street, Suite 904 P.O. Box 1351 Wilmington, DE 19899

# **Counsel to the Official Committee of Personal Injury Claimants**

Elihu Inselbuch, Esq. Caplin & Drysdale 399 Park Avenue, 36<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, NY 10022

Marla R. Eskin Campbell & Levine, LLC Suite 300 800 N. King Street Wilmington, DE 19801

### Official Committee of Equity Holders

Thomas M. Mayer, Esq. Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel 919 Third Avenue New York, NY 10022

Teresa K.D. Currier, Esq. Klett Rooney Lieber & Schorling 1000 West Street, Suite 1410 Wilmington, DE 19801

### **United States Trustee**

Office of the United States Trustee Frank J. Perch, Esq. 844 King Street, Suite 2311 Wilmington, DE 19801